AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1. (Currently Amended) An ~~Apparatus~~ apparatus for operating a home appliance, the apparatus comprising:

an image receiver for receiving a continuous stream of gesture images of a gesture performed within a field of view of the image receiver;

an image processor that receives a video signal corresponding to the continuous stream of gesture images and recognizes the gesture based on information contained in the video signal;

an operations processor coupled to the image processor for identifying ~~a home appliance~~ an operation of a particular home appliance associated with the gesture by comparing the recognized gesture with each of a predefined set of gestures, wherein each of the predefined gestures is associated with a respective operation of a particular home appliance; and

an appliance controller coupled to the operations processor for causing the home appliance operation to be performed.

2. (Original) The apparatus of claim 1, wherein the appliance controller is a voltage generator for generating a voltage signal that causes the home appliance operation to be performed.

3. (Original) The apparatus of claim 1, wherein the appliance controller is a pulse generator for generating a voltage pulse that causes the home appliance operation to be performed.

4. (Original) The apparatus of claim 1, further comprising:

a performance indicator coupled to the appliance controller for providing an indication that the home appliance operation has been performed.

5. (Original) The apparatus of claim 1, further comprising:

a data store, readable by the image processor, for storing data representative of the gesture and of the home appliance operation.

6. (Original) The apparatus of claim 1, wherein the image processor comprises:

an image sampler for sampling the continuous stream of gesture images to form a discrete sequence of gesture images; and

an image comparator for comparing the discrete sequence of gesture images to each of one or more stored discrete gesture sequence, and for recognizing the gesture based on the comparison.

7. (Canceled)

8. (Original) The apparatus of claim 1, further comprising:

a switch coupled to the appliance controller and adapted to be coupled to the home appliance, wherein the switch is responsive to the appliance controller for causing the home appliance operation to be performed.

9. (Currently Amended) A home appliance comprising:

an image receiver for receiving a continuous stream of gesture images of a gesture performed within a field of view of the image receiver;

an image processor that receives a video signal corresponding to the continuous stream of gesture images and recognizes the gesture based on information contained in the video signal;

an operations processor coupled to the image processor for identifying a ~~home appliance~~ an operation <u>of a particular home appliance</u> associated with the gesture <u>by comparing the recognized gesture with each of a predefined set of gestures, wherein each of the predefined gestures is associated with a respective operation of a particular home appliance</u>; and

an appliance controller coupled to the operations processor for causing the home appliance operation to be performed.

10. (Currently Amended) A method for operating a home appliance, the method comprising:

receiving a continuous stream of gesture images of a gesture performed within a field of view of an image receiver;

recognizing the gesture based on information contained in the continuous stream of gesture images;

identifying ~~a home appliance~~ an operation of a particular home appliance associated with the gesture by comparing the recognized gesture with each of a predefined set of gestures, wherein each of the predefined gestures is associated with a respective ~~home appliance~~ operation of a particular home appliance; and

causing the home appliance operation to be performed.

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